

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-11 SAJ-01 ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00

NEA-10 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /088 W

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R 030908Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3067

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

CINCEUR

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE

USNMR SHAPE

UNCLAS ANKARA 2589

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR

SUBJECT: CONTINUED TURKISH PRESS COVERAGE ON NEW DEFENSE AGREEMENT

1. THE TURKISH PRESS GAVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE APRIL 3 TO RPP
LEADER BULENT ECEVIT'S STATEMENT ABOUT THE NEW DEFENSE AGREEMENT.
(TEXT BY SEPTTEL). ACCORDING TO MILLIYET, ECEVIT SAID HE HAD NOT HAD
TIME TO LOOK THE AGREEMENT OVER CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY, BUT IT
SEEMED THAT "THE AGREEMENT MEETS AMERICA'S NEEDS MORE THAN TURKEY'S
)

....AFTER THE AGREEMENT IS RATIFIED BY THE (U.S.) CONGRESS,
IT SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE TURKISH PARLIAMENT.."
MOST PAPERS CARRIED THE ABOVE QUOTES AS HEADLINE AND SUBHEAD.

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2. IN ANOTHER ITEM, APRIL 3 CUMHURIYET REPORTED THAT AFTER HISSD

WEEKLY MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KOCUTURK, PRIME MINISTER SULEYMAN DEMIREL SAID: "I HOPE THE U.S. CONGRESS WILL NOT FAIL TO REALIZE THE VALUE OF TURKEY'S FRIENDSHIP," AND ADDED THAT IF CONGRESS DOES NOT APPROVE THE AGREEMENT, IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR TURKEY TO BUY WEAPONS FROM EUROPE BECAUSE THIS HAS ALREADY BEEN TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY.

3. ALSO IN CUMHURIYET (APRIL 3) WAS AN AP-BASED REPORT THAT GREEK AMBASSADOR MENELAUS ALEXANDRAKIS VISITED SECSTATE KISSINGER TO DELIVER AN ORAL PROTEST ABOUT THE NEW TURKISH-AMERICAN AGREEMENT. THE STORY SAID THE AMBASSADOR WAS BRIEFED ON THE AGREEMENT AND THAT, ACCORDING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT, NO FORMAL PROTEST WAS MADE.

4. A REPORT IN HURRIYET (APRIL 3), UNDER THE HEADLINE, "AMERICA WANTED PERMISSION TO USE THE INCIRLIK BASE", ALLEGED THAT U.S. AMBASSADOR MACOMBER HAD REQUESTED TURKISH PERMISSION TO USE THE INCIRLIK CDI TO AID THE EVACUATION OF AMERICAN FAMILIES FROM BEIRUT. THE STORY SAID THE CDI WAS TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE EVACUATION OF AMERICANS "WHOSE LIVES WERE ENDANGERED". I ADDED THAT TURKISH NAVAL UNITS HAD BEEN PUT ON ALERT BECAUSE OF THE CIVIL WAR IN LEBANON.

BERGUS

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED

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